

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Yoshio Usui et al. : Confirmation No.: 3179

Serial No. 10/719,223 : Group Art Unit: 3676

Filed: November 21, 2003 : Examiner: Pickard, Alison

For: HIGH TEMPERATURE AND HIGH
PRESSURE COMPRESSOR
PISTON RING

RESPONSE TO INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Interview Summary, dated as mailed on July 28, 2008, and having a one-month period of response extending through and including August 28, 2008, please note the following remarks:

An examiner interview was conducted between the Examiner and Applicants' representative on June 26, 2008. Applicant's representative and the Examiner discussed possible claim amendments to clearly distinguish the invention from the cited prior art. In particular, Applicant's representative urged the Examiner that the elements such as cobalt concentration in the piston, gap width, radius of curvature, and the like are not result effective variables that would be considered as routine experimentation to optimize. In addition, Applicant's representative noted that the results of Table 1 show the importance of certain features, as claimed, of the present invention. The amendments

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discussed are substantially as presented in the amendment of June 24, 2008. While no agreement was reached, Applicant's representative greatly appreciates and thanks the Examiner for his time, candor and assistance in this case.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees due with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0851.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: August 11, 2008

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